

House File 2195 - Introduced

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BY GJERDE, THORUP, and
McCLINTOCK

A BILL FOR

1 An Act relating to written reports required if a driver is
2 involved in an accident resulting in injury, death, or
3 property damage.
4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

1 Section 1. Section 321.266, subsection 2, Code 2022, is
2 amended to read as follows:

3 2. The driver of a vehicle involved in an accident resulting
4 in injury to or death of any person, or total property damage
5 to an apparent extent of one five thousand five hundred ~~five hundred~~ dollars
6 or more, shall, within seventy-two hours after the accident,
7 forward a written report of the accident to the department.
8 However, such report is not required when the accident is
9 investigated by a law enforcement agency.

10 EXPLANATION

11 The inclusion of this explanation does not constitute agreement with
12 the explanation's substance by the members of the general assembly.

13 Under current law, the driver of a vehicle involved in an
14 accident resulting in injury to or death of any person, or
15 total property damage to an apparent extent of \$1,500 or more,
16 must, within 72 hours after the accident, forward a written
17 report of the accident to the department of transportation
18 (DOT). However, such report is not required when the accident
19 is investigated by a law enforcement agency.

20 This bill increases the total apparent property damage
21 threshold to \$5,000.

22 Similar reports are required when the vehicle involved
23 in an accident is a snowmobile (Code section 321G.10) or an
24 all-terrain vehicle (Code section 321I.11). The bill does
25 not increase the \$1,500 property damage threshold for these
26 reports.

27 A person who fails to forward a written accident report
28 to the DOT commits a simple misdemeanor under Code section
29 321.482. A simple misdemeanor is punishable by confinement for
30 no more than 30 days and a fine of at least \$105 but not more
31 than \$855.